

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 OES-06 ERDA-05 ACDA-07
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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2621
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 2890
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 12477

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MNUC, TECH, CA, EEC
SUBJECT: CANADA-EURATOM NEGOTIATIONS ON NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS

REF: EC BRUSSELS 11778

1. CANADIAN MISSION OFFICER INFORMED US THAT AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES TO STRENGTHEN SAFEGUARDS ARRANGMENTS IN CANADA'S 1959 AGREEMENT WITH EURATOM HAD BEEN SUCCESSFULLY NEGOTIATED WITH THE EC COMMISSION BUT "FELL APART" WHEN THE COMMISSION SOUGHT TO OBTAIN MEMBER STATES' APPROVAL AT A DECEMBER 14 MEETING OF THE EC COUNCIL ATOMIC QUESTION SUBGROUP. WITHOUT GOING INTO SPECIFICS, THIS OFFICER STATED THAT FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIONS WERE RAISED WHICH, WHILE PROBABLY NOT INSURMOUNTABLE, WILL TAKE SOME TIME TO RESOLVE. HE FELT THE SUDDEN REVERSAL REFLECTED FAILURE ON THE PART OF THE COMMISSION TO PERIODICALLY TOUCH BASE WITH THE MEMBER STATES IN THE COURSE OF NEGOTIATIONS.

2. AS EARLIER REPORTED BY AMBASSADOR CADIEUX (REFTEL), CANADA WILL NOT EXTEND FOR A THIRD TIME THE DEADLINE FOR AGREEMENT NOW SET FOR DECEMBER 31, 1976. SINCE
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NEGOTIATIONS WILL NOT RESUME UNTIL NEXT YEAR, THE CANADIAN OFFICIAL SAID, CANADA IS CONSIDERING APPROACHING ITS PRINCIPAL EUROPEAN CLIENTS FOR NUCLEAR FUELS AND MATERIALS TO NEGOTIATE INTERIM BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS WHICH WOULD PERMIT CANADA TO CONTINUE TO MEET THEIR NEEDS AFTER DECEMBER 31. HE RECOGNIZED THAT

SUCH AN APPROACH WOULD POSE PROBLEMS AND MAY BE
DROPPED. AMONG OTHER DIFFICULTIES, CANADA
WOULD INSIST THAT AN EC MEMBER STATE RECEIVING CANADIAN
NUCLEAR SUPPLIES UNDER THESE TEMPORARY BILATERAL ARRANGE-
MENTS COULD NOT RE-EXPORT TO ANOTHER EC MEMBER WHICH
WAS NOT SIMILARLY COVER BY A BILATERAL AGREEMENT;
A RESTRICTION OF THIS TYPE, HE ACKNOWLEDGED, WOULD BE
COUNTRARY TO THE EC TREATIES. HINTON

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Message Attributes

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